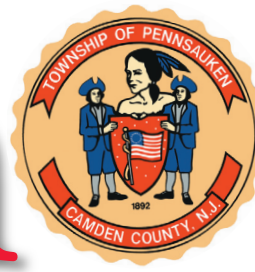


# All Around Pennsauken



VOL. 25, NO. 8

A Publication for the Community of Pennsauken

August 2020

## Pennsauken's Energy Aggregation Program To End

### New Jersey Government Energy Aggregation

Pennsauken's Energy Aggregation program, which provided residents an alternative to PSE&G's energy supplier, is coming to an end in the fall.

Residents currently enrolled in the program will continue to have Constellation NewEnergy as their supplier until October 31, 2020, when the 16-month fixed rate contract comes to an end. At that point, they will automatically be returned to PSE&G for electricity supply service. Residents are not required to do anything in order to switch back.

Depending on residents' billing cycle, they will see the change back sometime in November. PSE&G will continue to deliver residents' power, handle customer accounts, respond to outages, and maintain service.

Township Committee has decided to not pursue a new program at this time.

Households enrolled in the Pennsauken residential government energy aggregation program will receive a postcard in the mail regarding this change. This postcard is informational only and no action is required.

## Pennsauken Car And Bike Show To Become Parade

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

While COVID-19 is preventing the community from attending Pennsauken's annual Car and Bike Show this year, there's no reason why the event can't come to the public.

The Pennsauken Department of Parks and Recreation is announcing the first-ever Car and Bike Parade. Held on Saturday, Sept. 19, time and route to be determined, the parade will feature many of the classic vehicles you'd normally see at the show.

"We know our residents have missed our public events this year. We're excited to put this together for them," says Deputy Mayor Marco DiBattista. "The Town-



ship's trying to think out of the box to offer things for our residents during the pandemic. We hope that the Pennsauken community enjoys our parade and marks their calendar for next year, when our Car and Bike Show returns."

"The Pennsauken Car and Bike Parade is a way to not only provide something en-

tertaining for our residents, but also thank the many folks who bring their cars and motorcycles to our show year after year," adds Elwood "Duke" Martz from Pennsauken's Parks and Recreation Department. "It'll be free to be a part of the parade; and participants will receive a plaque and a gift card as a thank you from the Township."

Past participants of the Pennsauken Car and Bike Show are encouraged to register online for free at the Township website. If enough cars and motorcycles are registered, there will be two staggered parades held in different parts of town.

Visit <https://bit.ly/PennsaukenCarParade> to register a vehicle for the parade, or for event updates.

## Pennsauken High School Students Killed In Car Accident

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

The local community is mourning the loss of two Pennsauken High School students, Emmanuel and Marcus Crawford, who passed away on July 12 in a car accident near Hammonton in Atlantic County.

According to information provided by the New Jersey State Police, the driver, 19-year-old Nijul Crawford, the brother of the two boys and a member of Pennsauken High School's Class of 2019, lost control of the vehicle, sending it into the woods. Emmanuel, 15, and Marcus, 16, along with Maryha Toho, 19, of Philadelphia, were killed in the crash. Nijul is expected to fully recover from his injuries.

"These young men were enthusiastic and hard working students who exemplified the core values of the Pennsauken School District. They were multi-sport

*continued on page 23*



The family and friends of Manny and Marcus Crawford, the two Pennsauken High School students who died tragically in a car accident last month, were joined by members of the community at a moving vigil at the Pennsauken School District's Park Avenue Campus.

## Look! inside

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## Third Quarter Taxes Estimated, Grace Period Through August 10

Last month, Pennsauken Township mailed out residents' "estimated" third quarter 2020 tax bill for their properties. Mayor Killion and Township Committee decided to issue estimated tax billings for this year, given the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is based on the 2020 budget process and in the interest

of getting the tax billing out to Township property owners on a timely basis.

This estimated billing has been calculated based on 2019's final tax rate of \$3.773 per \$100 of assessed valuation. Third quarter billing has an interest free grace period that extends through Aug. 10, after which time interest will become

payable per state statute based on the original due date of August 1, 2020.

### Fourth Quarter Tax Billing

The fourth quarter tax billing will be mailed out approximately late August/early September and will be based on the final 2020 tax rate. The final billing will be calculated utilizing the certified rate and the assessed value of a resident's property. The fourth quarter amount is the remaining unbilled total of the first, second, and third quarter billings. The 2020 final billing will also include preliminary tax billings for the first half of 2021, based on half the total amount billed to a resident's property for the 2020 tax year, split evenly between the first and second quarters.

### Pennsauken Tax Sales

The tax sale process began on July 28. Anyone listed must pay by certified funds only (cashier's check, money order, etc.).

Pennsauken's tax sale will be held electronically on Wednesday, Sept. 16. Payments must be received by noon on Tuesday, Sept. 15 to be removed from the tax sale. Pennsauken's tax sale consists of 2019 and prior unpaid, municipal, sewer, and CCMUA charges. Online payments for properties listed in the tax sale will not be allowed.

### Payment Options For Property Taxes

For residents wishing to pay their property taxes in person, Pennsauken's Municipal Building is now open with restrictions. A maximum of six visitors are allowed to enter the building at one time. Individuals are required to wear a mask and show identification for contact tracing.

To avoid waiting to pay their property taxes, Pennsauken residents have the ability to pay online at [www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/content/pennsauken-tax-collector](http://www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/content/pennsauken-tax-collector); use the Township's drop box (located at the front of the Municipal Building, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd.); or

mail a check or money order payment. If you are paying with cash, you will need to come into the building, as the Township does not permit cash to be placed in the drop box. However, due to the limited amount of visitors allowed in the building, residents may have a significant wait time. Please have the exact billed amount to expedite your transaction, which will allow Township staff to help as many tax payers as possible.

Should residents have any questions regarding their tax bill, please contact the Office of the Tax Collector at (856) 665-1000 x118 or [tax@twp.pennsauken.nj.us](mailto:tax@twp.pennsauken.nj.us)

## Big Bucks Raffle Sales Resume At Saint Peter's

Saint Peter Roman Catholic Church is resuming ticket sales for its Big Bucks Raffle. During the month of August, two stations will be set up at the exits of the church, located at 43 West Maple Ave. in Merchantville, after all weekend Masses. Pens will be cleaned with disinfecting wipes and hand sanitizer will also be available.

Tickets are \$50 each. If all 2,000 tickets are sold, \$50,000 in prize money will be distributed. The drawing date is Saturday, Oct. 17. A portion of the proceeds from all sales directly benefit the parish.

For more information, visit [SaintPeterMerchantville.com](http://SaintPeterMerchantville.com).



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## IMPORTANT REMINDERS FROM PENNSAUKEN POLICE

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If you need an in-person police response that is not an emergency, please call (856) 663-1234.

If you don't need a police response but merely have a question to ask, please call (856) 488-0080.

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**MAYOR'S****CORNER**

By Tim Killion,  
Mayor of  
Pennsauken  
Township

As a kid in Pennsauken, it seems that one summer ran into another. From the end of June through early September, you really weren't even sure what day it was. Sound familiar?

The last few months have been eerily similar. Spring break quickly turned into summer vacation in a blink of an eye. A lot of people – myself included – still have to double check what the actual day is on occasion. But the good news is that we're fortunate enough that we can get out and enjoy the last few weeks of summer to help keep our sanity during

## A Unique Summer Filled With Childhood Inspired Activities

these crazy times.

While the days of heading out the door for countless hours of Wiffle Ball and games of jail break when the sun went down may be gone, I see a lot of people taking a page from their childhoods this summer. Trips to the playground and bike rides never go out of style. Fishing at Tippin's Pond is a favorite for many a junior angler. The town's basketball courts – like the one at Githens Park where I used to play when I was in high school – are very well used. There's also Pennsauken's very popular skate park, a place where Deputy Mayor DiBattista's inner kid would love to hang out. And many a family slows down the pace by taking a stroll along the well traveled walking path that connects Pennsauken and Merchantville.

Chromebook lids are being closed and board game boxes are being opened. Clue, Scrabble, Battleship, and Monopoly are always classic choices, although in the Killion household, it didn't matter what game we played, indoors or out, there was a lot of arguing, especially between myself and my brother, Mike.

Our residents have been creative this summer, thinking out of the box to create lasting memories for their families. And in today's plugged-in world, that means going back in time and passing along some tried-and-true childhood traditions; ones that don't need a charger or Wi-Fi connection.

On behalf of myself and the rest of Township Committee, we hope you have a great rest of your summer.

## Mayor Killion Throws Out First Pitch At "One More Game" Tourney



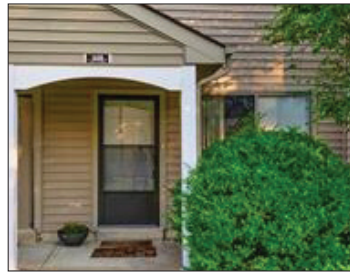
Play ball! Mayor Tim Killion throws out the first pitch at the start of the "One More Game" Seniors Baseball Tournament, held last month at the Walt Nicgorski Sports Complex.

## MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE ONE HOME AT A TIME!



### Pennsauken – Delaware Gardens

Pack Your Bags And Move Right Into This Gorgeous 3 Bed 2.5 Bath Colonial Located In The Delaware Gardens Section Of Town! Home Features Hardwood Flooring Throughout, Bright And Open Formal Living Room & Dining Room Which Are Great For Entertaining, Nice Big Beautifully Updated Eat In Kitchen With Lots Of Cabinets, Great Sized Bedrooms With Ample Closet Space, This Home Also Features A Full Basement With A Relaxing Family Room And Half Bath Which Is A Great Space To "Hang Out" In. \$179,900



### Voorhees – Victoriana

Beautiful 1 bedroom 1 bath first floor unit condo in desirable Victoriana. Laminate flooring and new neutral grey paint throughout entire unit. Covered fenced deck with storage closet overlooking open grassy area. Full bath with marble flooring. Large living room and dining area with recessed lighting. Ideal location..Walk to supermarkets, restaurants, coffee shoppe, mall, Voorhees Town Center, 20 minute drive to Center City Philadelphia, great school system. \$89,900



### Palmyra

Here Is Your Opportunity To Build Some Sweat Equity In This 3-4 Bedroom Victorian Twin. This Home Features A Newer Roof. Great Front Porch . Large Formal Living Room & Dining Room, Updated Kitchen. 3-4 Bedrooms (4th Bedroom Has Closet & Windows But No Heat Source). Home Also Features A Partially Finished Basement, Recently Installed Vinyl Fence, Deck (That Needs A Little Work), Enough Parking For Four Plus Cars. Home Is Being Sold In "As Is" Condition. \$139,900



### Pennsauken – Triplex

Spacious triplex with three car detached garage and tons of parking. All units include washer, dryer, refrigerator. All have separate hot water heaters, heaters and electrical panels located in a clean basement. Roof 17 years old. One unit has central air and a gas fireplace. 2 units have lovely patios. Close to public transportation and shopping. \$289,900



### Cherry Hill – Welcome Home!

Totally renovated Bungalow in the Barlow section. Definitely worth a look! \$199,900



### Glendora – Raised Ranch

Check Out This Beautiful Corner Property! This Rancher Features One Floor Living At It's Best! Main Floor Features A Beautiful Updated Kitchen, Formal Living Room, A 23x 14 Heated Sunroom That Overlooks The Fenced Back Yard With Above Ground Pool, & 3 Bedrooms. The Full Basement Features A Family Room, Den, And Half Bath On One Side And The Other Side Is Used For Storage & Laundry. Solar Panels Were Added in 2018 And Provide A Significant Savings In Electric Bills. \$209,900



### Oaklyn – Colonial

Welcome to this lovely three bedroom two story Colonial in Oaklyn, very close to Newton Lake and the Collingswood border! Among the many amenities this beautiful home includes newer bath, open floor plan eat in kitchen, windows and hot water heater. Additional features include a spacious office/den on the first floor, large living and dining rooms, large basement with washer and dryer, newer 150 Amp electric (2017), patio with awning out back, one car detached garage and so much more. Make your appointment today and Enjoy Oaklyn! \$189,900



### Pennsauken – Multi-Family

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## WAGSWORLD Old Columns, Old Rolodexes, And Reminders Of Getting Older

By Bob Wagner,  
AAP Columnist

My tired, old computer has been put to rest. The small, shiny, new one is still untested, but my years of articles have been sent to the cloud. Do not ask me if I know what cloud. I have looked to the sky, and seen a number of clouds, from dark and ominous, to white and puffy. But when I hit the right buttons, my saved old stories come up on the screen. There are a lot of stories.

I have been rereading my stories lately, bored by the virus that keeps us all close to home. TV has lost its appeal, carving has my arthritis in fits, and it is way too hot to hang at the garage. So, checking out my personal history has

been on my plate.

I have mysteriously, suddenly gotten old! I don't know how this happened, but according to my stories, I used to go outside and do things. I went hunting and fishing and kayaking. I traveled up and down the coast visiting friends. I had jobs to do, toys to play with, and even knew how to golf. Now, I sit a lot.

Just yesterday, I decided to call an old friend. As I perused my Rolodex, I realized almost half of my contacts were dead and gone. As I pulled out the cards and discarded them, I grew more and more melancholy. So I quit.

My Facebook machine opened to a picture of old Pennsauken history posted by Robert Fisher-Hughes. I knew all the people in the picture, where it was taken,

and why. Then I realized they were all once in my Rolodex. I turned off the tablet and ran to Fontana's for a cup of coffee, an oil change, and some talk with an old friend. We chatted for a bit about our aches and pains, friends passed, and stuff we still wanted to do before we were thrown out of Rolodexes. It seems we mostly want to get out of our chairs without hurting.

I ran home to the good air conditioning and started rereading articles again. I had an old one I pretended my two year old granddaughter had written; I was enjoying it until I realized she was going off to college next month in New England. And just as soon as I started feeling sorry for myself, I had an epiphany!

I have 25 years of old articles here. Frank Sinatra can run them over for the next 25 years, until you readers are too old to care, or the country runs out of paper. I can stop whining about everything and just sit here in the AC, annoying the bride, or get an AC unit that

makes life bearable at the garage.

I had another great idea. I bought tickets for the Pennsauken Pool. I'm taking my chair and towel and Rolodex to the pool, and meeting more people. I can

fill up the darn thing again, and make younger friends. And maybe, just maybe, I can get whistled at by the lifeguard for running near the pool. Do they whistle for limping?

## Pennsauken's 9-11 Flag Placement Canceled This Year

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

With the coronavirus outbreak still impacting the Pennsauken community, the difficult decision has been made to cancel this year's flag placement at the Township's 9-11 Memorial.

"The annual flag placement ceremony is something that's very special to a lot of people. It's not something we'd cancel lightly. But having a large gathering right now could put people at risk," explained Pennsauken Public Safety Director Bill Orth. "We're planning on holding the ceremony again in 2021. In the meantime, we hope that residents would consider still visiting the Memo-

rial on Sept. 11, and placing an individual flag or two on their own."

Pennsauken's 9/11 monument was first dedicated on Sept. 11, 2003, as a tribute to the heroes of 9/11, as well as direct responders such as police, fire and EMS, who serve every day to protect residents in the communities where they live. In remembrance of the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, a steel beam from the World Trade Center North Tower was dedicated as a permanent part of the memorial.

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## PENNSAUKEN AUGUST PUBLIC MEETINGS

August's public meetings are being held remotely via Zoom. Details on how the public can participate can be found on [twp.pennsauken.nj.us](http://twp.pennsauken.nj.us).

Township Committee  
Aug. 6 and 20, 6:00 p.m.

Board of Health  
Aug. 20, 5:45 p.m.

Zoning Board of Adjustment  
Aug. 5 and 19, 7:00 p.m.

Planning Board  
Aug. 4 and 25, 6:30 p.m.



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## EDITOR'S DESK The Grass Is Always Greener On The Other Side... I Forgot To Water

EDITOR'S  
DESK



By Frank Sinatra,  
AAP Editor

Lawn care and I are not friends. We will not get together for a late lunch or to grab a cup of coffee. We won't be Facebook friends, nor will we repost items from our Instagram feeds. I've come to realize that this was a relationship that was doomed from the very beginning.

This is not a hereditary trait. My father has a super green lawn that is extremely lush. The kind you can run barefoot on as butterflies flutter about and angels

sing summertime hymns in the background. I have sat at the feet of the master... and I have failed.

My lawn is a mishmash of dead grass and indigenous weeds. It is cut way too short and not watered unless Mother Nature lends a hand. I should be ashamed of myself.

The gardens are a different story. The missus is a cruel taskmaster, kicking my butt out the door in the dark to battle the heat and mosquitoes with only a garden hose and my wits. It'll be a cold day in hell before she lets her begonias go the way of the dodo bird. One plant that does not need any help is our morning

glory. We haven't planted that stuff in years and I'm still finding it everywhere, particularly where we don't want it.

I'm not sure what the source of my apathy is. Is it a lack of interest? Laziness? Are extraterrestrials to blame? Much like the number of licks it takes to get to the bottom of a Tootsie Pop, the world may never know.

Come September, I will try to redeem myself for past transgressions. I will thatch my dried out shell of a lawn. I may spread some of the grass seed that I bought from Home Depot two years ago. It should still be good, right? I might even bring out the sprinkler. I think I know where it is in the shed. And maybe, just maybe, there will be green stuff

growing on my lawn that isn't crabgrass. We have enough butterfly bushes to attract fluttering visitors. And who knows? I could be serenaded by cherubs come springtime.

Hey, I can dream.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and all the heat waves that come with it. Don't forget to water your lawn.

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## New Jersey Still Holding Pat At Phase II Of State's Reopening

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

In his recent press conferences, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy has stated that while the state's new COVID-19 hospitalizations, ventilator use, and patients in the ICU remain at lower levels, slight increases in the positivity rate, as well as the rate of transmission, which is a little above 1, are stalling any movement out of Phase II of the "Road Back."

"All of the metrics in our health care system continue to trend positively. We're seeing our standing in the national rankings decrease. But, we must remain vigilant," posted Murphy on social media.

Based on our most current numbers, we've had 794 confirmed cases of the coronavirus in town; and we've had 21 residents pass away from COVID-19 complications," said Pennsauken Mayor Tim Killion. "While the spread of the coronavirus has slowed, it's not going away. Our precautions can't either. Please wear a mask. Please wear one, whether you're headed into the store or waiting in a line outside and social distancing isn't possible. Wear one while you're at work or when you take your children to the park. Wear one when you

get out of your car or you're going into religious services. Just wear one."

### COVID-19 Resources For Businesses

Camden County has received federal funds from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to help businesses that have been struggling during the pandemic.

In order to qualify for a Camden County CARES Small Business Grant, the applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Business revenue has been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The business has been located in Camden County since January 1, 2019 or earlier.
- The business employed 25 or fewer employees as of March 1, 2020.
- The business earned \$5,000,000 or less in total revenue during 2019.

In addition, the business must not operate in any of the following categories:

- Banks or other financial institutions.
- E-Commerce.
- Businesses where the primary prod-

ucts or services are oriented to specific ages (vaping, liquor stores, etc.).

- Franchises, except for those franchises which are completely locally-owned and operated.

Businesses can receive grants up to \$10,000 for COVID caused or related expenses. To apply, visit CamdenCountyCares.com.

### Pennsauken School District Offers Full Remote, In-Person Learning

Last month, the Pennsauken School District announced that in addition to offering A/B split in-person learning this year, a full remote learning option was added.

"When we shared our plans to have an A/B split schedule in September, many parents asked about the possibility of full remote learning," said Dr. Ronnie Tarchichi, superintendent of schools for the Pennsauken School District, during a video shared to the community last month. "We had an informal online poll of school families from all grade levels. Approximately 50 percent are interested in having that option. We hear you and we're going to put a full remote learning

option in place."

Every child that participates in full remote learning will receive technology for their school work. Pre-K students will have a tablet; students K through 12 will receive a Chromebook.

Tarchichi indicated that while the District continues to move forward with the A/B split schedule, if enough parents and guardians sign up their children for remote learning, school could be offered all five days.

"If 50 percent of our students choose the remote learning option, there is a possibility of us opening the District five days a week for all other students who are choosing in-person learning," said Tarchichi.

The Superintendent went into more detail regarding current plans for the 2020-2021 school year in a message to families that can be found on page 13 of this issue.

### Community Resources

Pennsauken Township puts out regular updates on the coronavirus outbreak throughout the week via its website, [twp.pennsauken.nj.us](http://twp.pennsauken.nj.us); Pennsauken Tel-

evision, Channel 19 on Comcast and Channel 21 on Fios; and its social media channels: Facebook.com/Pennsauken-Twp and @pennsaukentwp for both Twitter and Instagram.

Residents with questions or concerns related to the coronavirus can call a free, 24-hour public hotline at 2-1-1 or (800) 962-1253, where trained professionals are standing by to answer questions. New Jersey residents can now also text NJCOVID to 898-211 to receive text information and stay informed. To receive live text assistance, residents can text their zip code to 898-211. More information is also available on the state's coronavirus-dedicated website at <https://covid19.nj.gov/>.

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## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

### Pennsauken Native Helps Aspiring Theater Students Ace Auditions

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Growing up in town, Leayne Dempsey – formerly Freeman – had a thing for bubble gum water ice from the PYAA snack stand and Yum Yums at Mister Softee. A proud member of Pennsauken High School's Class of 2004, she's quick to mention that her class was undefeated Spirit Week champions all four years. And she loves coming home to visit her parents, who still live in town.

She also loves the theatre; so much so that when she graduated from the University of Maryland with a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre, Education, and English – with a minor in Business as well – Leayne stayed in the D.C. area because of its strong arts community.

"I understudied a role at the Kennedy Center and did shows in the summer," explained Dempsey. "For a time, I was teacher by day and actress by night."

After working in Montgomery County Public Schools; going back for her Masters in both Education and Mental Health Counseling; and offering expressive art therapy at Walter Reed



Pennsauken native Leayne Dempsey has formed Theatre Major, a company that trains high school student actors and guides them through the college audition and college application process.

NICE, Leayne decided to "slow down" after becoming a mother. Sitting down at the mall with newborn in tow, she came up with what she considers her dream job. Her business: Theatre Major, an acting and educational consulting company that trains high school student actors and guides them through the college audition and college application process.

"I always hoped to do this. I've always coached my students to get them ready for their college auditions," said Dempsey.

Right before the coronavirus outbreak, Leayne started the onboarding process for her college audition coaching team, a diverse group of acclaimed musicians, artists, educators and Broadway actors, including Brittney Johnson, who performed in "Wicked" and "Les Misérables;" Tamar Greene, who has been seen in "Hamilton: An American Musical," and "The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess;" and Zachary Noah Piser, a stage actor with roles in "Dear Evan Hansen" and "Wicked," among others. The coaching team provides training on a range of skills, including contemporary and classical monologue acting, vocal technique and song interpretation, pop vocals, and dance technique.

"The intention was always to have a team predominantly of color," explained Dempsey. "There are a number of audition companies; I felt that was missing in the industry. I wanted a team as diverse as the students we coach. So many cultures and communities are included in our team."

And while Leayne and her talented staff help students all throughout the country, Pennsauken is never far from her mind and heart.

"I loved growing up in such a close town. I miss that," said Dempsey. "I try to create that now."

Theatre Major is now accepting students for its fall and winter roster. To learn about the company's services, visit [www.wearetheatremajor.com](http://www.wearetheatremajor.com).

### Pennsauken Resident Opens Home Inspector School

Joseph Coyle, a longtime Pennsauken resident and New Jersey home inspector, announced the opening of The Home Inspection School of New Jersey. Located at 3000 Atrium Way in Mt. Laurel, NJ, the school provides classes and mentoring required for individuals to become a licensed New Jersey home inspector.

"Being a home inspector is a great career. Due to the lowest interest rates in years, people are buying real estate at a tremendous pace," explained Coyle, owner of JMC Quality Home Inspections and instructor at the school. "As a home inspector for over a decade, I've experienced many market fluctuations; and even in slower times, the industry has remained consistently busy."

The school provides a 10-week course including workshops, mentoring, and guidance to anyone who would like to become a New Jersey home inspector.

"Our school is one of only a few approved schools in the State of New Jersey," said Coyle.

The school provides support to individuals interested in home inspection by providing discounts for veterans and state funding for qualified candidates through



Joseph Coyle, owner of the Home Inspection School of New Jersey.

NJTopps.com.

The 10-week course is limited to 10 participants per semester. Courses for the fall begin in September 2020. For more information, contact Joseph Coyle at the Home Inspection School of New Jersey at (856) 882-9611 or visit [HomeInspectionSchoolofNJ.com](http://HomeInspectionSchoolofNJ.com).

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## Camden County Allocates CARES Act Funding To Pennsauken

The global pandemic caused by COVID-19 has had a significant financial impact on municipalities throughout Camden County, Pennsauken included. Local governments across the board have been under pressure to purchase vital personal protective equipment (PPE), hand sanitizer, and a variety of other tools for essential employees since the start of this public health crisis. To alleviate some of these costs, the Freeholder Board received, and is allocating, federal funding for towns which will be used to supplement unforeseen costs that have been attributed directly to their operational budget.

"Anyone working in government today knows we have seen a stark



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change in how we operate, and we have had to account for the costs of PPE, testing, and additional unforeseen needs at a scale we never would have pictured just five months ago," said Freeholder Director Louis Cappelli Jr. "This funding is going to be necessary for our towns' budget cycles, whether it is used for EMS overtime or to reimburse the outfitting of municipal buildings for public business in a safe manner."

Pennsauken's municipal government has received \$259,000 in the first phase of CARES Act funding that has been

dispersed through the County. In total, municipalities in Camden County will receive \$3.2 million in grant funding. These much-needed funds will support the Township's preparation and response to COVID-19, covering fire, police, EMS, and municipal costs for items such as PPE, plexiglass, sanitizing solution, sprayers, and more.

"We're extremely grateful for the federal funding we've received to help us respond to COVID-19," said Pennsauken Mayor Tim Killian. "We've gone to great lengths to ensure the safety of our municipal staff, our first responders, and the residents we serve. We thank our partners at the County level for their support in helping us continue with these very important efforts."

Congressman Donald Norcross worked with his colleagues in the House of

Representatives to pass the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

"We are still in the midst of a grave health emergency, and our local governments urgently need relief," Norcross said. "The CARES Act passed by Congress provides our counties and towns with the critical federal resources needed to help cover unexpected costs from the coronavirus pandemic and keep our first responders and other essential workers safe and on the job. I will continue to fight for South Jersey in Congress to ensure our communities get the tools and supplies we need to combat this outbreak and keep residents healthy and secure."

The CARES Act was a trillion-dollar economic relief package to protect the American people from the public health

and economic impacts of COVID-19. The law was signed into law in late March, having been passed by Congress with overwhelming, bipartisan support.

The CARES Act requires that payments from the Coronavirus Relief Fund only be used to cover expenses that:

1. Are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19;
2. Were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 (the date of enactment of the CARES Act); and
3. Were incurred during the period from March 1, to December 30, 2020.

This will be part of the ongoing distribution of grant funding by the Freeholder Board to towns, healthcare institutions and small businesses over the next month.

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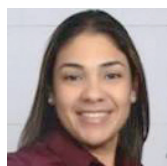
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# inSchool

## Welcome Back To Our Fourth And Fifth Graders!

By Tanya Harmon,  
Intermediate School Principal

Welcome new and returning families. Your teachers and the staff here at the Pennsauken Intermediate School are excited to welcome our Intermediate families to the 2020-2021 school year. This school year will be filled with new learning adventures and explorations! We can't wait to see you!

Below, please find a summary of information that will help you plan ahead for the upcoming school year:

- The first day of school is Thursday, Sept. 3. This is a full day of learning.
- School begins daily at 8:05 a.m. for

all students.

- A bus, if assigned, will pick up your child at their designated bus stop. Bus information will be mailed to you from the Department of Transportation. If you have questions, please call (856) 662-8502.
- Information regarding lunch applications forms to determine your child's lunch status for the 2020-2021 school year will be mailed home from the Pennsauken Food Services. If you have any questions about your child's meal status (free, reduced, or paid lunch), please call (856) 662-8500.

- As part of the District's uniform policy, students are required to wear: dark blue/navy collared polo shirts with dark blue or khaki slacks, shorts, skirts/skirts.
- Sweat pants, yoga pants, jeans, tights/jeggings, and hoodies are not permitted.
- Back to School Night will be held virtually this year. Information regarding dates/sessions will be forthcoming.

We hope that you enjoy the rest of your summer and we look forward to seeing you on Sept. 3.

## Looking Forward To Another Fantastically Franklin Year

By Susan Galloza, Principal,  
Franklin Elementary

Benjamin Franklin Elementary School's staff is thrilled to welcome all students attending Franklin this school year.

As we face new challenges this year, our dedicated staff is ready to work with our school families to make sure the health and safety of our students is always our main priority.

At Franklin, we strive for all students to become the best version of themselves. We want students to be curious

and love the journey of learning. Students are expected to respect themselves and others. We desire for our students to develop positive friendships with their classmates.

As staff members at Franklin, we will work hard to plan and implement engaging learning opportunities. We will cultivate an environment where students will be able to learn and enjoy school.

I am looking forward to my third year at Franklin. Enjoy the rest of your summer and come ready to learn!

## Baldwin Begins Another Year Of Learning

By Dana Gery, Baldwin Principal

Hello parents and students of Baldwin Early Childhood Learning Center! Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year and a brand new educational journey for your child!

The teachers and staff are eager to work with you and your child to make this the most successful school year ever!

As your principal, I am thrilled to welcome you and looking forward to meeting all of you.

Below, please find a summary of information that will help you plan ahead for the upcoming school year:

The first day of school is Thursday, Sept. 3.

School begins daily at 8:45 a.m. for all students.

A bus, if assigned, will pick up your child at their designated bus stop. Bus information will be mailed to you from the Department of Transportation. If you have questions, please call (856) 662-8502.

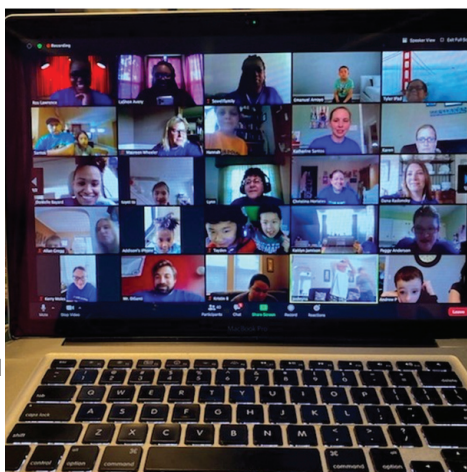
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The Baldwin Meet and Greet will be held virtually this year. More information will be forthcoming.

We hope that you enjoy the rest of your summer. I look forward to meeting all of you in September!

## Delair's Remote Learning Family Of The Month Awards

Delair School families were recognized for participating in remote learning from May through June. Each family received a certificate and pencil in the mail, while a short paragraph was read during a Zoom meeting to highlight their accomplishments!





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## Celebrating The Class Of 2020

Pennsauken High School's Class of 2020 finally received their in-person graduation during a series of socially distant ceremonies last month.



Visit [AllAroundPennsauken.com](http://AllAroundPennsauken.com) for up-to-the-minute news, community events and exclusive web content!

## Welcome Back To School Delair Students!

By Rosalyn Lawrence, Delair Principal

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Delair School for the 2020-2021 school year! As we begin a new year with new students and returning families, it is an exciting time! We are preparing to make learning rigorous, engaging and FUN, while keeping the momentum going for our students. While there are challenges to overcome with COVID-19, we are ready and willing to meet them face-to-face to engage students and families consistently and effectively! Welcome to the Dynamic Delair Team!

I hope that the summer months were fun, relaxing, and filled with many learning experiences. I look forward to this school year becoming an extension of that summer fun through some exciting and new challenges as we embark upon another wonderful school year.

As a student of Delair Elementary School, we expect that you will take advantage of every learning opportunity available; perform your best on all academic tasks; respect yourself and others; contribute to the development of a positive learning environment; and develop problem solving and conflict resolution skills.

The staff at Delair are here to assist students in meeting the expectations listed above. A positive and safe atmosphere has been cultivated into an environment that places heavy emphasis on the value of learning. Learning experi-



ences and activities will be meaningful and challenging to all students. In addition, classroom activities will be focused on student involvement and a hands-on approach to learning.

As a parent at Delair School, we expect that you will take advantage of this opportunity to instill the value and importance of your child's education through your communication, involvement and participation in your schools' activities; participate in conferences to discuss your child's educational progress; and develop relationships with teachers who care deeply about your child.

As your principal, I am excited about the plans for the upcoming school year and look forward to working with all the students and their families as we strive to make the school year a successful experience for everyone.

I look forward to meeting and greeting everyone in September!



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Township Events**



## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



By Dr. Ronnie Tarchichi, MEd<sup>2</sup>, M.S., M.B.S., M.A.<sup>2</sup>, Ed.D., Superintendent, Pennsauken Public Schools

Closing down our buildings in March and working through several months of remote learning, only to deal with more uncertainty for the start of the 2020-2021 school year, has been extremely frustrating for our staff and the families we serve. The state has specific requirements that each school district has to adhere to; but things are also constantly changing. We're doing our best to adapt to these changes and prepare for something that's never been done; our plans are being thoroughly thought about and we are following CDC guidelines.

### Remote Learning

When we shared our plans to have an A/B split schedule in September, many parents asked about the possibility of full remote learning. After an informal poll of school families and receiving additional guidance from the New Jersey Department of Education, we have put a full remote learning option in place. Full remote learning registration has already begun; each school has a specific day to register. For more information on the registration schedule, visit Pennsauken.net.

Every child that participates in full remote learning will receive technology for their school work. Pre-K students will have a tablet; students K-12 will receive a Chromebook.

It's important to note if parents choose full remote learning, students will stay on that for the remainder of the 2020/2021 school year, unless a significant change is mandated by the state and the New Jersey Department of Education.

### In-Person Instruction

The A/B split schedule allows the district to adhere to the CDC guidelines when it comes to social distancing in the schools as well as on the bus. We chose this over a Monday/Tuesday, Thursday/Friday schedule because it maximizes

instruction. Students would lose 25 days of instruction if we went with a two-day a week model. On days students are home, they will be learning asynchronously with classwork or homework from the prior day's lesson.

Select Special Education students will be going on a five-day schedule. They will be coming to school every day based upon their IEP and upon the needs of their specific learning program.

The current 2020/2021 school calendar has been posted on our District Facebook page and can be found on our website, Pennsauken.net. A days are red, B days are blue. Families will be getting a letter in the mail stating which schedule your student is on. Students living in the same household will be on the same schedule, even if they go to different schools.

### Self-Reporting Temperatures

Before you send your children off to our schools, we're asking parents and guardians to self-check them for a temperature, which is called self-reporting. If your child has a temperature of 100.4 or higher, you must keep them home. Parents are to self-report the fever to the nurse's office of your student's school. Your child will be permitted back to school after being fever free for 24 hours and they must provide a doctor's note. We ask you to be responsible with this task, as it will ensure the safety of all students and staff.

If a student becomes ill with a fever during school hours, each building will have an isolation room where the student can wait comfortably until a parent or guardian picks them up.

Nurses will be at full capacity throughout Pennsauken public schools every day, regardless of having half the student population or not. Nurses will be in all school buildings as always to keep your children safe.

### Busing Students

The A/B schedule makes social distancing possible on the school bus. Because only half of the students attend

school each day, half the students are riding the bus; and students will be seated six feet apart; there will be hand sanitizer on each bus and students should wear masks on the bus.

### Mask Wearing In School

Pennsauken School District will provide the students with a mask to start the school year. Each mask will have their school logo. Students are permitted to wear another school-appropriate mask if they've grown accustomed to a certain mask over the summer. It is very comfortable to wear and is machine washable.

Staff will be provided face shields by the school district. This will allow the teachers and staff to protect themselves and those around them while being able to speak in a more comfortable fashion. They may also wear a mask in addition to the face shields.

Parents and guardians, please begin practicing mask wearing with your children now through the remainder of the summer. It will be very uncomfortable for them if September is the first time they wear a mask. It's important they get used to how a mask feels, and how to put them on and take them off themselves, as they will need to wear them while walking through the schools from location to location. If you are planning for in-school instruction, please do not leave mask wearing lessons up to our teachers.

It is important to note when the students are in their classroom seated in their desks being six feet apart, they will be allowed to remove their mask while learning. If they move around the classroom, or walking through the school going from class to class, masks must be worn.

### Lunches At School

Students will be eating lunch in the lunchrooms, as social distancing will be possible because of the A/B split schedule. The lunchroom will be sanitized between lunch periods, as well as at the end of every school day.

### Health and Physical Education

Physical Education classes will be held but there will be no sharing equipment, like playing basketball.

All locker rooms will be closed. Middle school and high school students that normally wear a gym uniform will be permitted to wear their gym uniform on days they have physical education, and they will follow their building principal's directives.

As for extracurricular sports and ac-

tivities, we are following the NJSIAA guidelines. We are suspending any indoor activities as of now.

### Cleaning And Sanitizing Our Schools

Through the CARES Act, Pennsauken Public School was able to make a significant investment in hospital grade sanitizer and equipment. Our classrooms and hallways will be deep cleaned every night. Buses will be sanitized between routes and deep cleaned in the evenings.

Hand sanitizer dispensers are being installed in every classroom, our school hallways, and on every bus.

### The Start Of The School Year

First day of the school year is Sept. 3. Back to school nights will be a virtual presentation. The videos will be posted to each teacher's website and can be viewed there. All parent teacher conferences will be held remotely, not in person. Teachers will inform parents of days

and times during the week when conferences can take place.

Now what I've highlighted is our best plan at this point in time, based on the information we have and the guidance we have received from the state. It could – and most likely will – change in some shape or form.

For example, if a significant amount of families sign up for full remote learning, we may be in a position to offer five days of in-classroom instruction for the rest of the school community, which will help many working parents and guardians.

Teaching during a pandemic is not an ideal situation for anyone. The Board of Education and I feel for all of the families, staff, and students, as we enter an unprecedented time. Please know that we are doing what we can to ensure the safety and wellbeing of everyone. We have made a commitment to provide the best education possible in a positive and safe environment; and we appreciate all of your patience and understanding as we do so.

Join the Pennsauken Free Public Library, Pennsauken School District, and BookSmiles to

## KEEP PENNSAUKEN READING BOOK BUNDLE GIVEAWAY

**The Keep Pennsauken Reading Book Bundle Giveaway Initiative provides books for Pennsauken residents whose access to reading materials has been impacted by the pandemic.**

**Book bundles will contain 3-5 gently used books, grouped by age, from baby to adult. These books are for families to keep, and to support their reading journeys.**

### Book Bundle Pick-up locations:

**Pennsauken High School:** Mondays and Thursdays 10am-12pm  
**Pennsauken Free Public Library:** Monday-Friday, 11am-4pm and Saturday, 11am-1pm

**You must wear a mask when picking up bundles at either location.**

To learn more, please call 856-665-5959 ext. 3 or email [director@pennsaukenlibrary.org](mailto:director@pennsaukenlibrary.org) or [bzino@pennsauken.net](mailto:bzino@pennsauken.net)

## Goodbyes Leading To A New Hello

It seemed like yesterday that we said "goodbye" at Delair School before the start of the summer. Now we're getting ready for a new school year. See you in September!





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Monday thru Friday 3:00 PM to 9:00 PM  
No substitutions. Senior citizen's discounts not applicable.

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**We will be CLOSED MONDAY until the pandemic restrictions are lifted by Governor Murphy.**

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## Back To School Info For Fine School

By Thomas Honeyman,  
Fine School Principal

I hope this letter finds you healthy and your family enjoying the remaining days of summer. Without question, this has been a summer like no other. While I know many of you are optimistically anxious to send your child back to school, I want everyone to know that all of our Pennsauken schools are prepared to put the health of your child first.

Welcome to George B. Fine Elementary School, whether you are returning or you are new to the Pennsauken School District. We have a special learning community, where student safety and emotional well being are just as important as academic success, especially this school year.

On March 13, 2020, our Fine faculty created an even stronger bond with so many of our parents and guardians. Your partnership during remote learning helped us maximize your child's unusual education last spring. Many of you are still with us for the 2020-2021 school year, as we embark on another new educational path. Thank you for your assistance in student learning!

We will be starting a new year off with scheduling and logistical changes that will maximize health and safety. Thank you in advance for your patience as we adjust to any new challenges. Your children, our students, are worth all the planning effort.

In preparing for school, please review the following information regarding the opening of school. It is important that your child arrives at school on time and ready to learn each of their scheduled days. PLEASE ensure their arrival by 8:50 a.m. This is the first step to academic success. Below are some important upcoming events:

The first day of school is Thursday, Sept. 3. This is a full day of learning.

Back to School Night will be a virtual information session this year the second week in September.

Suggested school items and uniform information can also be found at [fine.pennsauken.net](http://fine.pennsauken.net).

I look forward to continuing to work and lead the educational community of Fine. Continue to be safe this summer—please find time to read with your children – and see you in September.

## Welcome Back To Carson School

By Diane Joyce, Carson School Principal

Welcome new and returning families to Carson School! Please know that our teachers and staff are making every effort to not leave Carson students' education to chance. Our educators here at Carson are excited to begin our 2020-2021 school year. We will be starting a new year off with scheduling and logistical changes that will address health and safety guidelines set forth by our district. Thank you in advance for your patience as we adjust to any new challenges.

Below, please find a summary of information that will help you plan ahead for the upcoming school year:

- The first day of school is Thursday, Sept. 3. This is a full day of learning.
- School begins daily at 8:50 a.m. for all students. Please be sure to have your child arrive on time to school. This is important for their academic success.
- A bus, if assigned, will pick up your

child at their designated bus stop. Bus information will be mailed to you from the Department of Transportation. If you have questions, please call (856) 662-8502.

- As part of the District's uniform policy, students are required to wear: dark blue/navy collared polo shirts with dark blue or khaki slacks, shorts, skirts/skirts.
- Information about lunch applications forms for this year will be mailed home from Food Services. If you have any questions about your child's meal status, call (856) 662-8500.
- Back to School Night will be held virtually this year. Information regarding dates/sessions will be forthcoming.
- More information can be found at [pennsauken.net](http://pennsauken.net) and [carson.pennsauken.net](http://carson.pennsauken.net). See you in September. Stay safe and healthy!

## PENNSAUKEN SCHOOL NEWS

For further information about the articles or events published in the Pennsauken School News section of "All Around Pennsauken" please contact:

**Nicole Roberts, Editor [nicole.roberts@pennsauken.net](mailto:nicole.roberts@pennsauken.net)**





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## Lions Cancel Upcoming Fundraisers And Programming



Due to the ongoing coronavirus situation, the Pennsauken Lions Club has decided to cancel most of our fundraising and community events for the rest of 2020. This includes the pancake breakfast, cigar night, and the eye screenings for Pennsauken, Merchantville, and parochial schools. The goal of the Lions Club is to continue to keep both our members and supporters safe. The Lions Club will be providing a list of program alternatives in the coming weeks, beginning in September.

For more than 78 years, the Pennsauken Lions Club has supported programs that have benefited high school seniors through scholarships, in school vision programs, and programs for needy

individuals of our community.

Though COVID-19 has affected some of our programs, the Lions Club will continue to support our school screening programs and special initiative efforts whenever possible. Any support you are able to provide the Pennsauken Lions, whether in-kind or through a donation, is greatly appreciated. Interested individuals wanting to know more can contact the Pennsauken Lions at pennsaukenlionsclub1@gmail.com or (609) 468-8921.

Individuals or organizations interested in becoming a member of the Pennsauken Lions Club can email pennsaukenlionsclub1@gmail.com; call (609) 468-8921; or contact Lions Club Secretary Sharon Rush at (856) 665-

1722. The Lions Club has resumed in-person meetings on the first and third Mondays of each month at Macaro's Catering & Deli, 6225 Westfield Ave., Pennsauken, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The Lions Club adheres to all distancing requirements and all individuals that attend must wear a mask.



## The ICEMAN Goeth BY GAVIN ROSSNER

Forget a sprinkler, a kiddie pool's "wack," one dip in the Pennsauken Pool, you'll want to come back. The beach is too far; and seagulls are mean; the pool is close by... it's refreshing and clean!



## Pennsauken Sewerage Authority

1250 John Tipton Blvd., Pennsauken, NJ 08110

Phone: (856) 663-5542 • Fax: (856) 663-5718 • 24 Hour Emergency: (856) 662-0686

### Think Twice About What You're Flushing

Baby wipes, disinfectant wipes, paper towels, and even "flushable" wipes, can't go down the toilet

The Pennsauken Sewerage Authority is asking residents to think twice about what they are flushing down their toilets.

Paper towels, tissues, napkins, disinfectant wipes, and even supposedly "flushable" wipes (they are not flushable or biodegradable), cannot be flushed down the toilet. The system can accommodate toilet paper, which is made to disintegrate quickly in water, but wipes and other materials, which don't break down as

readily, clog pipes. That means sewer backups into the homes of the users or of others, as clogs form down the line. These blockages require jetting of the sewer main to clear.

We are seeing an increase in volume, which is to be expected given the number of people staying in their homes as part of efforts to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

It's to everybody's benefit to use only

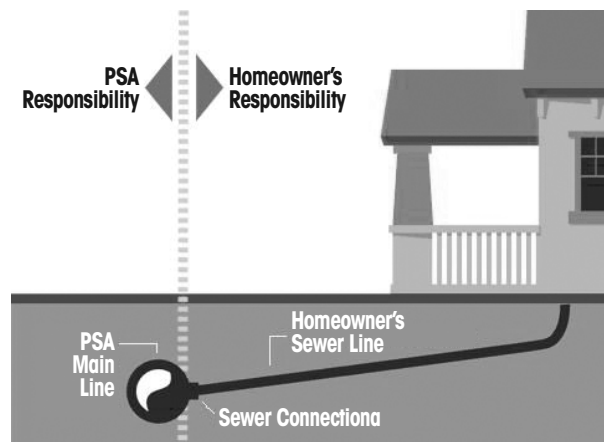
toilet paper. Wipes might be able to flush, but that's when the unseen problems begin. While disposable wipes are a convenient and easy-to-use product that serve a variety of helpful purposes, they should be thrown in the trash following use. If manufacturers deem a product unsafe to go down the drain, it will be labeled on the packing. While there is debate over whether wipes labeled as "flushable" are truly safe for sewers, non-

flushable products, like baby wipes, wet wipes and disinfectant wipes, are for your trash can.

In addition to stoppages in the main line, which could cause a backup into homes and businesses, the potential for widespread service interruptions are possible if these nonflushable items reach a lift station and clog a pump. Not to mention the costs associated with removing a pump to clear the clog, which

are borne by our rate payers.

The Pennsauken Sewerage Authority remains available 24 hours a day to assist residents during the State of Emergency. We have enacted a "No Public Contact" policy for the protection of our neighbors and our employees, but we will respond to all requests for assistance and will advise the homeowner of our findings by telephone. If you require assistance, call (856) 662-0686.



### Important Customer Information

The Pennsauken Sewerage Authority is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the sanitary sewage collection system in our service area. The sanitary sewage collection system is made up of main lines, force mains and pumping stations.

The homeowner owns and therefore is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the lateral line from their dwelling up to and including the connection to the main line.

The rules and regulations of the Pennsauken Sewerage Authority require a back

flow prevention device commonly referred to as a "back check valve" be installed whenever plumbing fixtures are located below street level, such as in the basement. PSA strongly recommends all our customers have a back check valve installed to prevent contamination in the event of a main line stoppage.

The discharge of water collected in a sump pit to the sanitary sewage collection system is prohibited.

Cooking grease poured down the drain can cause a blockage of the lateral line. Please dispose of grease properly.

### REMINDER: CHECK TO SEE IF YOUR NEXT PAYMENT IS DUE THIS MONTH.

OFFICE HOURS:  
Monday to Thursday – 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Friday – 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

PLEASE USE MAIL SLOT LOCATED IN OUR PUBLIC ENTRANCE DOOR TO DROP PAYMENTS WHEN THE OFFICE IS CLOSED.

TO PAY YOUR BILL ON-LINE – VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT [WWW.PSEWER.COM](http://WWW.PSEWER.COM) AND CLICK ON THE BILLING BUTTON – THERE IS A \$3.95 FEE THE PROVIDER OF THE SERVICE CHARGES EACH CUSTOMER PER \$175 TRANSACTION.

If you are having a financial hardship and will be unable to pay your bill on time, or in full, please contact us at (856) 663-5542 to make payment arrangements. A simple 5-minute call could save you the inconvenience of being without water as well as the shut off fee which is currently \$75. Please do not send post dated checks to PSA without prior arrangements.





## GRAYMATTERS Being Older Brings Many Good Things – Just Ask Ringo

By Judith Kristen,  
AAP Columnist

Okay, it may seem like I'm backtracking a bit but... Wait! I am backtracking.

I know I often talk about time or the timing of things. But, you know, I think a lot of older people do that because we know that in our 60s and 70s and beyond, we have more time behind us than we have ahead of us. So, time and memories are very important to us. And might I add, at our age, we're happy we can remember all that we can remember!

In the failed memory department, here was me just this morning. I was looking for my reading glasses, and as I walked past the dining room mirror for the third time, I noticed they were resting on my head. You'd think I'd remember that, wouldn't you? Oh well...

Anyway, I still believe with age comes many a good thing. We seniors are more worldly; we're wiser, more kind and compassionate; we appreciate our friendships; and truly cherish our children,

grandchildren, and even great grandchildren. We learn from them and they learn from us and it's a beautiful exchange.

And, on top of that, we're living longer, healthier, and happier lives. I'm not saying there's not an ache or a pain now and then, but overall, I'd say we're doing pretty well for ourselves.

Here's a wonderful example of that, and it comes in the form of longtime hero of mine. Ringo Starr, drummer for The Beatles, turned 80 on July 7, 2020. Eighty? Yes. Ringo is 80! The man has had his AARP card for thirty years! He's been happily married to his lovely wife, Barbara, for forty years. Ringo also has three children, eight grandchildren, and one great grandchild.

After The Beatles broke up back in 1970, Ringo had acquired the usual problems that many rock stars do, but eventually, he eliminated all of his bad habits. No more drinking or drugs. He formed his own music group that still tours the world: "Ringo Starr's All-Starr Band." He also became a non-smoker

and a vegetarian, with a very healthy daily exercise regime.

To add to that, he's a big believer in peace and love and the power of blueberries and broccoli!

I was hoping to read that the secret to his energy and jumping jacks on stage was cheesecake, hoagies, and sugared jelly donuts from the Holmesburg Bakery, but I suppose that was expecting just a wee bit too much.

But the thing is this: he's 80. He's embracing his years. He's active and giving in many ways that help our global families, the world's most in need foundations, and creatures great and small, on land, sea, and air. He enjoys his family and friends; he passionately loves music, drumming, and creating artwork; and he's still fully equipped with that wonderful, quick-witted Liverpudlian sense of humor.

So, while none of us are a former Beatle, unless Paul McCartney is reading this month's copy of AAP, we can, and most likely are also doing many, many things that bring us joy while spreading it

around to others. It's a win-win as they say. We're an amazing generation. We have much to be grateful for. We're helpful and giving. We're strong in spirit and we continue to do things to make our world a better place, locally and globally. And, we've still got our groove on!

Maybe some younger people will

shake their heads as we walk a little slower to our car these days; but if they only could hear the beautiful music we have playing in our heads.

Hopefully, one day, they'll get lucky and be old enough to know.

Peace and love and all good things  
~Judy

## SENIORCORNER

### COVID-19 Scams Target Seniors

By Sonny DiSabato,  
Senior Citizen Coordinator

Hello fellow seniors.

We're all a little fearful with all the uncertainty surrounding the coronavirus outbreak. Unfortunately, there are a few bad people out there who would want to take advantage of your fear to steal your personal information and your hard-earned savings.

The New Jersey Department of Consumer Affairs is warning about several scams, including the following:

**Fake Mandatory COVID-19 Test Scams** – Individuals posing as employees of agencies like the U.S. Department of Health may contact you about a getting mandatory COVID-19 test. They'll ask questions designed to steal your personal, financial and/or medical information.

**Grandparent/Family Scams** – Someone reaches out pretending to be relative or friend sick with COVID-19 and is in desperate need for money, usually asking for gift cards or a wire transfer. Contact

that person directly to find out if they really need help.

**Phony Charities and Crowdfunding** – Do your homework to see if any charities who reach out to you or an online crowdfunding campaign are really legitimate. Don't let anyone rush you into a decision for a donation. If you do, you may just be lining their pockets.

And remember: don't give out personal info to any person who calls you out of the blue. Also, be careful about the "Saying Yes" scam, where someone will ask, "Can you hear me?" If you say "yes," they can use that verbal okay to authorize unwanted charges on a phone/utility bill or credit card.

If it seems too good to be true, it probably is. And if you're having an uncomfortable phone call with someone you don't know, just hang up. Even better, don't pick up the phone and let the machine answer it.

Wishing you all health and happiness.



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Sunday 8:30 to 5:00



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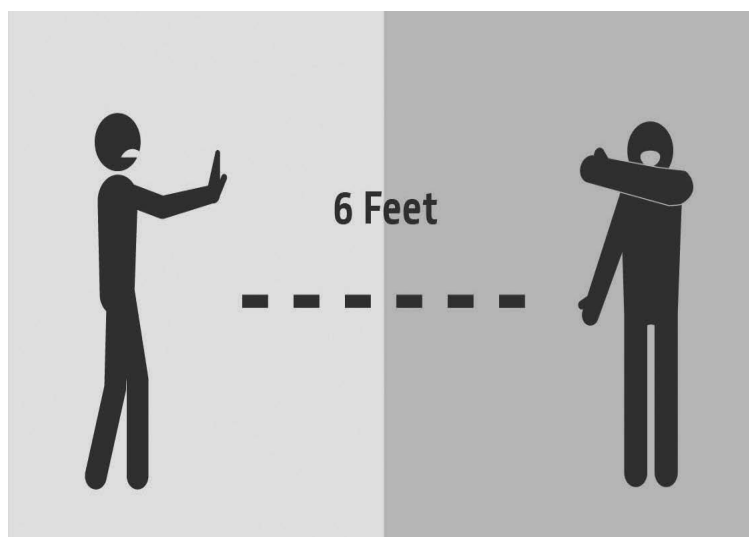
# MPWC WATERLINES

## A Reminder To Our Valued Customers

When visiting our office in person, face coverings are **REQUIRED** and please follow the social distancing markers on our lobby floor. The lobby will continue to close for in-person business at 3:00 p.m., so that we can properly clean and sanitize each day.

Also, please keep in mind that if you should encounter one of our Service Technicians on the street in your neighborhood, please wear a mask and keep a safe distance when interacting with them. Service Technicians are only entering properties for emergencies at this time.

Please check our website often and follow us on Facebook to stay up-to-date on our operations, as we continue to navigate this difficult season.



## Consumer Confidence Report

We are pleased to report that during the past year, the water delivered to your home or business complied with or exceeded all state and federal drinking water requirements.

Our annual Consumer Confidence Report has been completed. This edition covers all testing completed from January through December 2019. We are proud to inform you that our compliance with all state and federal drinking water laws remains exemplary. As always, we are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water. We remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education, while continuing to serve the needs of all our

water users.

You can view the annual Consumer Confidence Report electronically on our website, by following the link on your water bill, or by visiting [www.gemgrp.com/ereports/MPWC2019CCR.pdf](http://www.gemgrp.com/ereports/MPWC2019CCR.pdf)

Printed copies are available in our office. If you have any questions, please contact our Customer Support Center during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

## The MPWC Accepts Phone Payments

If you'd like to make a payment by phone, you can dial direct to our automated system at 1 (844) 611-4016. Please have your account number and PIN available when you call. Your account number and PIN numbers can be found on your water bill. Please be aware that turnoff charges or other account adjustments will not be reflected in the online or phone payment systems until the next business day. There is a convenience fee associated with all phone and online payments; this fee is not charged by the MPWC, but by the third party processor. Convenience fees are charged as follows: credit/debit card payments are subject to a convenience fee of 2.95 percent; payments made by e-check are subject to a convenience fee of \$1.05.

## ATTENTION CUSTOMERS: Don't Forget to "Like" Us on Facebook!



Looking for information about the water you drink? Where does it come from? How does it get to my home? Do you want to learn more about the MPWC's ongoing infrastructure projects? Receive important updates about our operations during the Covid-19 pandemic? Have a question about your meter? Visit us on the web at [www.mpwc.com](http://www.mpwc.com) and from there, click the "Like Us On Facebook" button. Don't forget to "like" our posts and share them with your friends and neighbors!

## The MPWC Offices Are OPEN!

MPWC has reopened our lobby at 6751 Westfield Ave. for in-person payments and questions. Lobby hours are 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Face coverings are required for visitors; and we ask that you please maintain social distance by following the markers on the floor.

## High water bill?

The toilet's flapper may be the culprit to cause an "invisible leak".



A toilet is made to fill up as soon as the water in the tank dips low. If the flapper doesn't keep the water in the tank, water is flowing through the meter to increase your bill.

## Moving?



For new tenants and homeowners

Please provide us with your lease agreement or Closing Disclosure/Settlement Statement to establish your account.

If you're moving out...

Please call our office at (856) 663-0043 to schedule a final reading to be done prior to your moving date or settlement. We need your forwarding address or your title company's contact information to know where to send the final bill.

## KEEP INFORMED WITH REVERSE 9-1-1

For members of the community directly affected by water main breaks, we provide messages via our Reverse 9-1-1 notification system. To stay informed of all water emergencies that may occur within our service area, visit [MPWC.com/swift911](http://MPWC.com/swift911) to sign up for Reverse 9-1-1!

Meetings of the Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission are currently being held via phone conference. For more information, visit our website, [MPWC.com](http://MPWC.com)

## WATER EMERGENCY?

Call 663-0044 anytime, 24 hours a day, seven days a week

MERCHANTVILLE – PENNSAUKEN WATER COMMISSION  
6751 Westfield Avenue, Pennsauken, NJ 08110, 856-663-0043 [www.mpwc.com](http://www.mpwc.com)

Mr. Joseph Scavuzzo, President ■ Mr. George Piperno, Vice President  
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Mr. Edward Brennan, Asst. Secretary/Treasurer



## FOODADVENTURES

### Some Go-To Spots For Favorite Local Treats

By Rachael Shugars, AAP Columnist

This month, I decided that instead of making something in my home, I'd let you all in on a few of my go-to spots to get some of my favorite treats when I don't feel like cooking.

Here are some local spots in or around town that I have really grown to love for their quality of food and service. I highly suggest all the ones on my list, but there have been so many places I have visited that could make the list for their certain dishes. If there's any that I missed, please feel free to let me know on my Facebook page, "All Around Pennsauken Food Adventures."

Some of my absolute favorites include:

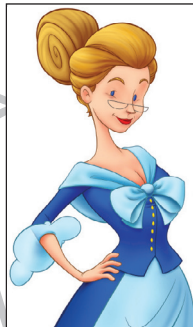
- Montegrillo Cucina Italiana, for their mussels marinara, many amazing pizzas, and antipasta rustica – 5825 Westfield Ave., Pennsauken, (856) 910-9000.
- Aroma Indian Bistro, for their Chicken Tikka Masala – 43 South Centre St., Merchantville, (856) 320-4501.
- The Juice Bar, for their carrot cake or berry crunch smoothie – 22 South Centre St., Merchantville, (856) 324-0436.
- Back Alley Barbecue, for their brisket platter with mac n' cheese and collard greens – 2591 Haddonfield Rd., Pennsauken, (856) 488-0405.
- Fortune Cookie Chinese, for their steamed dumplings and combination platters – 7708 Maple Ave., Pennsauken, (856) 662-6661.
- Pronto Pizza, for their cheese pizza – 6 East Park Ave., Merchantville, (856) 488-1805.
- Bobby Ray's Pennsauken Tavern, for any of their burgers – 6324 Westfield Ave., Pennsauken, (856) 356-2072.
- Thai Son, for their House Special pho – 5201 Rt. 38, Pennsauken, (856) 324-0838.
- The Penn Queen Dinner, for South Jersey's best Chicken Parmigiana – Route 130 & Westfield Ave., Pennsauken (856) 662-1928.
- Eclipse Brewery, for any of their beers – 25 East Park Ave., Pennsauken, (856) 662-7453.
- Associated Supermarket, for their lunch meat bundles available at the deli – 6100 Westfield Ave., Pennsauken, (856) 661-3494.
- Express Shish Kebab, for their falafel and their kebab combos – 2673 Haddonfield Rd., Pennsauken, (856) 500-1300.

Enjoy your Food Adventures!

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### There's Still Time To Fill Out The 2020 Census

Beginning Aug. 11, Census takers will begin hitting the streets. They'll be knocking on the doors of households that have yet to participate in the 2020 Census. If you're apprehensive to have someone come to your home right now – even for something as important as the 2020 Census – you can still fill out the Census for yourself. The Township's current Census response rate is 68.1 percent, which is higher than the overall response rate for New Jersey; but in order to truly benefit, our community must do more to participate.

Pennsauken and New Jersey were underreported in the 2010 Census, allowing millions of dollars in federal assistance to be allocated to other states and communities instead of right here. When you participate in the 2020 Census, your data helps determine how much federal funding New Jersey gets for things like Medicaid, Head Start, block grants for community mental health services, and SNAP. It plays a crucial role in congressional representation, determining how many seats New Jersey has in the House of Representatives. Census data is also invaluable to businesses, as they use it to make decisions on where to open new locations; where to expand operations; where to recruit employees; and which products and services to offer.

#### Easy Ways To Complete The Census

Now's the perfect time to complete

the 2020 Census; there's several easy ways to do so. For the first time in Census history, participants can fill it out online at [My2020Census.gov](http://My2020Census.gov).

Don't have internet access? You can complete the 2020 Census over the phone in about 10 minutes. The call is toll free and there are over a dozen language lines, so you can use your native tongue to participate.

Here are just some of the options available:

English: (844) 330-2020

Spanish: (844) 468-2020

Vietnamese: (844) 461-2020

Chinese (Mandarin): (844) 391-2020

Chinese (Cantonese): (844) 398-2020

If you're unable to complete the 2020 Census online or by using the phone, you should have already received a paper questionnaire, so you can complete it and mail it back.

Remember: if you self-respond for the 2020 Census now, you'll be taken off the list of households that Census takers will begin visiting this month.

The 2020 Census is extremely important, so much so that you're required to do so by law. The 2020 Census is safe; your answers are kept completely confidential. The 2020 Census is easy; you can do it online, over the phone, by mail, or when a Census worker visits.

So don't delay! Pennsauken counts!

For more information, visit [2020Census.gov](http://2020Census.gov).



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## Pennsauken PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

By Joe Scavuzzo, Director,  
Department of Public Works

Since my arrival in January of 2015, there are few workdays that I am absent for. In the first couple years, I would take vacation during the “slow” time of year in late winter, before the weather begins to turn nice and things get busy. Resulting snow storms while I was away – in warmer weather – led to my staff’s ruling that I wasn’t allowed to go away anymore in the winter. Fast-forward to Tropical Storm Fay’s torrential rainfall on July

## Tropical Storms And Dealing With Trash Issues

10 and I was once again on away on vacation. I fear they won’t allow me to take vacation anymore!

Although I sit to write this article on July 13, the crews are still addressing issues discovered as a result of the storm. From downed trees due to soil erosion from the fast-moving water, to debris left behind; when it rains it pours! This is the reason for the various storm basins around the town. Their strategic placement provides a place for the storm’s rainwater to collect as it runs from the streets and into the stormwater inlets along the curbs. In my early morning

travels, I could witness the water level that the Baldwin’s Run basin reached on Friday. This is the large basin next to the Municipal Building, where Central School originally sat along Merchantville Ave. The maintenance of these locations, whether it be grass cutting; inspecting/repairing culverts and pipes; or just picking up litter, helps to ensure the proper operation when Mother Nature visits. For those of you concerned, the rain did have a negative effect on my golf game – I played worse than usual!

Speaking of sub-par performance, there is a need to once again address Pennsauken’s trash collection issues, mainly the week following Father’s Day back in June. Although our contracted collection service provider, South Jersey Sanitation, claimed manpower shortages due to COVID-19, the unfinished routes beginning on Monday and extending into Saturday is not an unfamiliar situation for our residents. During these situations, you will see a trend that occurs: a priority for the type of materials being

collected. If we are notified that they “might not finish a day’s collection,” I have instructed South Jersey Sanitation to collect trash before recycling, due to the higher ability for trash to smell, attract rodents, etc., opposed to recycling. Additionally, recycling would take priority over yard debris. This process is a “last resort” to maintain a town-wide sanitary condition when the contractor fails to complete their work. I believe Mayor Killion has touched upon the Township’s addressing of this topic well during his online letters and Facebook videos. Until this type of issue stops, I encourage all residents to keep reporting collection problems to Public Works, so we can address it internally and process the resolution as expeditiously as possible.

On Fridays, the Pennsauken Department of Public Works staff ensure that two of town’s highly-used park/recreation areas are ready for weekend use: Tippin’s Pond, located at the end of Cove Rd.; and the Pennsauken Boat Ramp, located at the end of Derousse Ave., along

the Delaware River. On Monday mornings, we tend to these areas to clean up after weekend use, picking up litter and emptying the Township trash containers. We discovered an abundance of litter at the boat ramp as a result of this weekend’s use. If our residents experience a sub-par situation due to the lack of care by visitors using our town’s great recreation areas, please reach out to our office via phone, e-mail, or Facebook, so we can address it quickly. Stay well.

To contact Public Works, call (856) 663-0178, e-mail [publicworks@twp.pennsauken.nj.us](mailto:publicworks@twp.pennsauken.nj.us); or visit “Pennsauken Department of Public Works” on Facebook.

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Stanley McGraw IV  
Funeral Director  
NJ License No. 4628

Ashley Rose Caruso-Condon  
Funeral Director  
NJ License No. 4948

Andrea Peirce Meyers  
Funeral Director  
NJ License No. 4540

### TALKIN’ TRASH

There are no “trash holidays” this month. Trash and recycling collection, as well as yard waste and white goods pickup, occur as normal.

Camden County has suspended all special household hazardous waste and electronics collections, as well as residential paper shredding events, until further notice.

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## Pennsauken High School Students Killed In Car Accident

continued from page 1

athletes and highly involved in extracurricular activities and our CTE program," the District said in a statement. "The Pennsauken School District offers our most sincere condolences to their family. Our heart breaks for their mother, who has been a valued member of the Pennsauken School Family. We hope their brother, who was also in the accident, makes a full recovery. And our thoughts and prayers are with their sister, who is scheduled to graduate as a member of the Pennsauken High School Class of 2020."

"Loss of life, especially of those so young, hits all of us extremely hard. Our community, as well as their loved ones and friends, are not only missing out on the joy these teens brought to those around them every day, but also the tremendous potential of who they were to become," wrote Pennsauken Mayor Tim Killion in an online post. "On behalf of myself, as well as the entire Township Committee and our municipal staff, we offer our most heartfelt condolences to their families, friends, schoolmates, and teachers as they grieve. We are One Pennsauken. We mourn with you."



Marcus Crawford

At last month's in-person graduation ceremonies at Pennsauken High School, there was a moment of silence in memory of the teens during all four days. The boys' sister, Jenette Crawford, did attend on July 16, sitting in the stands with her family.

On the evening of July 18, a vigil for Emmanuel and Marcus was held at the Pennsauken School District's Park Avenue Campus. Hundreds were in attendance, as the Crawford family and their friends remembered the teens. In a moving tribute, dozens of pink, white, and green balloons were released into the sky, symbolically lifting up prayers and heartfelt thoughts to heaven. Afterwards, two



Emmanuel Crawford

solitary balloons hung above the campus, as if Emmanuel and Marcus gave a sign that they were watching from above.

A viewing and service was held for Marcus and Emmanuel Crawford on July 27, with internment at Arlington Cemetery in Pennsauken. All Around Pennsauken's staff offers the Crawford family their deepest condolences.

## New Procedures For Visitors Coming To Municipal Building

While the Township's Municipal Building, located at 5605 N. Crescent Blvd., is open to the public, there are several new protocols in place to protect both visitors and staff during the coronavirus outbreak.

Visitors to the building must wear a mask before entering and ring the doorbell to be let in. Only six visitors are allowed in the building at one time. If that limit has been reached, individuals must wait outside until a visitor inside leaves.

Once inside, visitors are asked to report to the receptionist's desk and provide both an ID and phone number for contact tracing purposes. Plexiglass partitions have been installed; there are markers placed six feet apart on the floor to promote social distancing; and hand sanitizer is available for visitors as they enter the building.

For those wishing to make non-cash payments for their taxes without entering the building or after hours, residents can use the secure drop box located in the front of the Municipal Building.

The Township's Building Department also has a 24 hour permit drop off box, located underneath the awning at the side of the Municipal Building. Permit applications, as well as pool and deck booklets, can be found in the bins aside the drop box.

For updates on municipal services, follow the Township's official social media channels (Facebook.com/PennsaukenTwp and "PennsaukenTwp" on Twitter and Instagram), Pennsauken Television (Channel 19 on Comcast, Channel 21 on Fios), and the town's website at [twp.pennsauken.nj.us](http://twp.pennsauken.nj.us).

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## The First Minority Family In Meadowbrook

Special Submission by Bette L. Butler

*EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is an excerpt from an essay written by Mrs. Butler about life in the 1960s. As a part of All Around Pennsauken's 25th anniversary, we are republishing this article, which ran in the February 2017 edition.*

My husband, Kenneth Butler, DDS, and I were the first African-American couple to purchase a home in the Meadowbrook section of Pennsauken.

Ken was born and raised in Pennsauken and attended Merchantville High School. I was born in Camden and raised in historic Saddlestown, located in Haddon Township.

After dental school at Howard Uni-

versity, Washington, D.C., Ken served as a dentist in the U.S. Air Force for more than eight years, eventually leaving with the rank of captain to return to New Jersey and begin a private practice in Burlington. We had issues with the purchase of a home there, but eventually purchased a different home than the original we desired.

Most of Ken's patients were from the Pennsauken/Merchantville area. His best friend and former classmate from Merchantville High School, George Dempsey, called and informed Ken that a physician's home/office was on the market. I called the owner directly and made an appointment to see the home.

Since the owner did not realize that I was African-American, Ken and I made a decision to make an offer on the house without him seeing it. We contacted our friends, the late Dr. and Mrs. Beideman, who were members of the Burlington County Human Relations Council, who offered to assist us.

The Beidemans made an appointment to see the house and made an offer to purchase it. Their offer was accepted and upon the closing, my husband and I joined them; the Beidemans stated that they were representing us as the buyers. The listing broker was shocked and immediately called the sellers and stated that the house had been sold to us. The

deed was placed in our names and we moved in shortly thereafter. At the time, we had two elementary age children, Barry and Patti; and after a chat a chat with Mrs. Althea Gardner, the first African-American principal of Benjamin Franklin Elementary, she convinced me to enroll our children in the school.

Within a few weeks, our neighbor who had welcomed us informed me that several families, including hers, had signed a petition to prevent the sale of the home to a minority family. After knowing us, she apologized and stated that she could not believe she had signed it.

After moving back to Pennsauken, one of Ken's classmates called and invited

him to a round of golf at Ramblewood Country Club. Ken accepted and they met at the club, but were told that it was a private club and Negroes were not allowed to play. Ken filed a complaint with the state's civil rights division and they found Ramblewood guilty of discrimination. Ken was to be enrolled on the same terms as other members, regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, or ancestry. This ruling made it possible for other minorities to join and play there.

Dr. Butler was a prominent dentist in Pennsauken for 45 years and was a member of Grace Episcopal Church Merchantville. He passed away in 2002 at the age of 70.

## Spotted Lanternfly Sightings Continue In Pennsauken

The invasive insect known as the Spotted Lanternfly has continued to be seen throughout Pennsauken. This unwelcome visitor to our community has spread throughout southeastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey and is threatening agriculture and hardwood trees.

"We're seeing an increase of Spotted Lanternfly sightings in Pennsauken. It's all over social media and our offices have received several phone calls and e-mails about the issue," explains Pennsauken Mayor Tim Killian. "This is definitely a nuisance pest that is negatively impacting our region."

Spotted Lanternflies are not known to bite, sting, or attack people, pets or livestock, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. The pest is primarily a threat to agriculture, includ-



Residents are asked to keep an eye out for the Spotted Lanternfly, an invasive species of insect that can severely damage agriculture and hardwood trees.

ing many fruits and crops.

Information provided by the United States Department of Agriculture states that Spotted Lanternflies feed on a wide range of fruit, ornamental and woody trees, with tree-of-heaven being one of

the preferred hosts. They are an invasive species native to China and can be spread long distances by people who move infested material or items containing egg masses. If allowed to spread in the United States, this pest could seriously impact the country's grape, orchard, and logging industries.

During the late summer, Lanternflies reach full adulthood and are entering their mating season. Adult Spotted Lanternflies lay their eggs on trees and other surfaces in late fall. Egg masses measure approximately 1" long. Fresh ones look like patches of encrusted mud; older masses appear as vertical rows of seed-like egg cases.

Residents that encounter a Spotted Lanternfly are strongly encouraged to eliminate them if at all possible by crushing or smashing them. Keep in mind that they can quickly jump or fly out of harm's way. Another way of trapping Lanternflies is to "band" a tree with duct tape, making sure that the sticky side is facing outward. If egg masses are found, residents are encouraged to scrape them off, double bag them and throw them in the trash. Applying alcohol and hand sanitizer is also effective in killing the eggs. Individuals can also report Lanternfly sightings to the New Jersey Department of Agriculture at 833-BADBUG-0 (833-223-2840) or e-mail photos to SLF-plantindustry@ag.nj.gov.

Camden County is part of the Spotted Lanternfly "Quarantine Area" in New Jersey. Residents are asked to make sure that outdoor items are pest free before they moved to other places.

For a downloadable checklist, visit [www.state.nj.us/agriculture/divisions/pi/pdf/NJResidenceSLFChecklist.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/agriculture/divisions/pi/pdf/NJResidenceSLFChecklist.pdf).

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## AAP Columnist Publishes Her Latest Book, "Exceeding The Speed Limit"

In the last few months, most of our lives have changed in ways we never dreamed of at the beginning of 2020. Since March, many of us have been overly isolated and under-socialized, with too much time on our hands and, not enough time, all at once.

Local AAP columnist and author, Judith Kristen, can empathize with all of the above; and over the last five months, she took some of her isolation time and completed her 18th book, "Exceeding the Speed Limit ... a cautionary tale of love, lust, and passion."

"Exceeding the Speed Limit" harkens back two decades to her earlier

writing years, and she created this book basically for women... but not entirely.

"This is a book about women for women," said Judy. "But I'm sure that men can certainly grasp this particular storyline with fresh eyes, and have a few good laughs, among other things, while they're at it."

While not specifically a romance book, a comedy, or a tragedy, "Exceeding the Speed Limit" does have all of those elements within the 418 page storyline. So, does it get dicey?

"You can't write about a lifetime of relationships and be real with all of it, and not have it get over the top now and

then," added Kristen. "Everything was game on for me. It's fun and funny. It's heartbreaking, yet hopeful. It's about steadfast friendships with our girlfriends, and, looking for love in all the right, and wrong places. There are also plenty of moments where some readers will say, 'I can't believe she just wrote that!' But I

did. And I totally enjoyed every single minute it took to write it, start to finish."

"Exceeding the Speed Limit ... a cautionary tale of love, lust, and passion" is now available on Amazon.com in paperback and on Kindle. It will also be found in local bookstores, libraries, and specialty shops starting Monday, Aug. 31.

Judith Kristen's much loved "Grey Matters" column has appeared in All Around Pennsauken for the last 16 years. Well known for her children's books as well as the popular "Date with a Beatle," she is currently working on her 19th and 20th books, with an anticipated December 2020 release date.



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## FRIENDS of the LIBRARY Lemonade 4 Change To Help Increase Diversity Of Library Materials

By Arlene Miller, Friends of the  
Pennsauken Free Public Library

Life has given us quite a few lemons lately; so the old saying, "When life gives

you lemons, make lemonade," couldn't be truer this year. The Friends of the Pennsauken Free Public Library are hoping to make a different kind of

lemonade this month, and we hope you'll be there to help out.

Lemonade 4 Change is a way some communities have raised money to pro-

vide their public libraries with funding to enhance and increase their collections of books on diversity for all ages. Our way of looking at life these days has definitely changed; and the events of the past few weeks have shown that how we look at cultural diversity is also different. The planning committee for the event is made up of residents who represent the diversity of our community, including the organizers of the Black Lives Matter event Pennsauken held in early June.

Lemonade 4 Change is a two-part fundraiser: one virtual and one physical. The virtual lemonade stand will solicit monetary donations online, including on Facebook and on the Friends' website at [Pennsaukenlibraryfriends.org](http://Pennsaukenlibraryfriends.org). We hope to have physical stands operational as well in mid-August. They will be drive-through, no contact events to be held in several locations throughout the com-

munity. Social distancing will of course be observed by the volunteers; and the lemonade stands set up will be in compliance with CDC guidelines for health and safety.

As we finalize details on our virtual and physical stands, look for posters around town and messages on both the Library and Friends' websites for the information you'll need to help contribute and make this fundraiser a success. Our goal is \$4,500; we hope these events will make a difference to everyone in our community and add to our wonderful Library's collection of up-to-the-minute books, eBooks, and audio books to help us all through these times. We look forward to your participation as well and count on your support.

Thank you and as always, stay safe and well.

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## Township Committee Works To Foster, Promote Equality

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

After the 'Sauken in Solidarity/Black Lives Matter March and Vigil, Pennsauken Township Committee had a strong desire to continue the conversation regarding issues of race in the community. Two members of the town's governing body are spearheading that initiative.

"Township Committee members Al Dyer and Jessica Rafeh will be leading the effort to help foster and promote equality in our community," said Pennsauken Mayor Tim Killion. "Pennsauken's strength has always been its diversity. We must continue that conversation to

make all of our residents feel welcome in our town."

Last month, Dyer and Rafeh met virtually with Angela Nguyen, Aigner Settles, and Satta Massaquoi, young women who helped organize the march and vigil that was held in Pennsauken on June 10. They discussed a variety of ways that the public can share their thoughts on how to address racism in the community.

"Our job was to just really listen to these remarkable young ladies, as they shared their thoughts with us," said Dyer. "They had a lot of really good ideas that we took back to the rest of Committee. There are definitely some things we can

do to keep people talking about this very important issue."

Township Committee is also lending its support behind the Lemonade 4 Change fundraiser sponsored by the Friends of the Pennsauken Free Public Library to help the enhance and increase their collections of books on diversity for all ages.

"Our library is where our community comes together. It's extremely important to have all of Pennsauken's voices represented there," explained Rafeh. "We

encourage our residents to help us with this important initiative."

Dyer and Rafeh remain hopeful that the momentum gained in the last few months will lead to even more positive change.

"We've always been a very accepting community," added Dyer. "Jess and I are encouraged with the conversations we've had so far and look forward to fostering an environment where we can have more meaningful dialogues about race."



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- Applications are currently available for **weekday** pick-up from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at The Diocesan Housing Services Corporation, 1845 Haddon Avenue, Camden, NJ 08103.
- Interested parties may also call (856) 342-4187 to request applications by mail. Completed applications must be submitted by mail or hand delivery to the address below. Applications will not be accepted by fax.

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## inBooks Library, School District Helps To "Keep Pennsauken Reading"

The Pennsauken Free Public Library, Pennsauken School District and BookSmiles are partnering together for the "Keep Pennsauken Reading" Book Bundle Giveaway.

With schools, libraries and bookstores closed during the pandemic, many families lost access to books and other reading materials. As content and programs for children and adults have moved to online platforms, the digital divide has become more apparent; and it is clear that there are many members of our community who lack access to, and knowledge of, technology. It is now more important than ever to find alternate ways of providing reading materials for the families in our community.

The Keep Pennsauken Reading Book Bundle Giveaway is designed to put books into the hands and homes of residents who are most in need this summer. Each book bundle will include three to five books, grouped together by age, and features books on a variety of topics and genres. The book bundles for children will be tailored to support their reading journey. Each bundle will also include the Library's summer reading packet, which includes a reading log, a calendar of events, a summer reading list, and a Sum-

mer Reading Challenge Board.

### Bundle Groups

- Read with Me (Ages 0-6)
- Independent Readers (Ages 7-12)
- Teen Readers (Ages 13-17)
- Adult Readers (Ages 18+)

Bundles will be distributed to families at the Pennsauken High School Summer Meals Pickup, 800 Hylton Rd., on Mondays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to noon. They are also available for pickup at the Pennsauken Free Public Library, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd., Monday through Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; and on Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Both the Library and the School District will be following CDC guidelines for both packing and distribution to ensure all people remain safe, and that the books are free from potential contamination. You must wear a mask when picking up bundles at either location.

The gently used books are being provided by BookSmiles, a local non-profit organization, and the Pennsauken Free Public Library.

*If you have any questions, please contact Tanya Finney Estrada, director of the Pennsauken Free Public Library, at [director@pennsaukenlibrary.org](mailto:director@pennsaukenlibrary.org) or Bridget Zino, Pennsauken District librarian, at [bzino@pennsauken.net](mailto:bzino@pennsauken.net).*

## August Virtual Library Events

### LIBRARY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

[www.facebook.com/pennsaukenlibrary](https://www.facebook.com/pennsaukenlibrary)  
[www.instagram.com/pennsaukenlibrary](https://www.instagram.com/pennsaukenlibrary)

• On TV, Cops Are Always The Main Characters—Thursday, Aug. 6, 7:30 p.m. Presented by Kathryn VanArendonk, staff writer at Vulture and New York Magazine, covering TV, stand-up comedy, and culture. This talk will cover a short history and critical look into the role of police on television and the changing way TV has depicted policing and crime over its nearly 100 years. We'll talk about the role of police in

writing and developing stories for TV, and the way Hollywood has relied on police departments as primary sources since TV's inception. But we'll also try to think about how police stories work, and what happens when culture is inundated with stories that prioritize police protagonists. This event is open to all community members and will be presented via Zoom.

## Library Goes Fine Free For The Summer

As part of the reopening of the Library and our annual summer reading program, we are waiving all fines on undamaged returned items.

Bring in any overdue item now through Sept. 8 and we will waive your fine for that item only. Fine forgiveness does not apply to any items returned in

damaged or unusable condition. If any returned items are damaged or unusable, you'll be responsible to pay for the replacement cost of that item.

If you had previously received a court ticket resulting from fines, please contact the Library at (856) 665-5959 ext. 3 or e-mail [admin@pennsaukenlibrary.org](mailto:admin@pennsaukenlibrary.org).



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# inSports Jersey Joe Statue Previewed In Pennsauken

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

In a small studio off Colonial Highway, County officials previewed the statue of Arnold Cream, better known as Jersey Joe Walcott, the world heavyweight champion with ties to Pennsauken.

The Camden County Historical Society has partnered with the Camden County Freeholder Board to honor the local boxing legend and civic leader with an eight-foot bronze statue in Wiggins Park along the Camden Waterfront. Cream had extremely strong ties to Camden, but he also spent many of his formative years living in the Homestead community of Pennsauken Township.

"Jersey Joe's legacy as a world-class

athlete and as the first African American Sheriff in Camden County is of historical significance, but it's his iconography in the region that really motivates this project," said Freeholder Jonathan Young. "Jersey Joe was a hero and an inspiration to people throughout our area."

"I've been seeing this version of my grandfather in my dreams for years," said Vincent Cream, Pennsauken resident and the oldest grandson of Jersey Joe. "Right now, we're doing what everybody should be doing: making our ancestors proud."

The statue is currently being modeled in clay. It depicts the champ in a moment in time from December 5, 1947, Walcott's



Sculptor Carl LeVotch sprays down the clay sculpture of Jersey Joe Walcott, which will be turned into a bronze statue that will be placed in Wiggins Park.

first fight against Joe Lewis.

"He shocked the world that night," said Cream. "He lost the fight by a split decision controversially, but that move, that moment, he had knocked Joe Lewis down. I feel it in my bones and in my energy when I look at it."

"I'm very inspired. I'm deeply excited about being a part of it and actually being chosen to create this piece," added sculptor Carl LeVotch, a Camden native who is creating the larger-than-life tribute to the local legend. "I hope this [statue] will become an inspiration to all of us. He was the kind of person that comes along and shows all of us what can be accomplished in a lifetime of dedication and hard work."

The project began in October of last year; LeVotch is about a month or so away from adding in more detail work to

the clay sculpture, which will be used to make a mold to cast the bronze statue. In addition to the likeness of Walcott, there will be two bronze high relief sculptures, and a bronze replica of The Champion's ring belt. These works of art will be affixed to a pedestal/base, and the entire monument will be placed permanently on the promenade at Wiggins Park.

"Knowing [my grandfather], he would probably shed a tear," said Cream. "He was humble and kind. He would be thankful. He would be appreciative."

For more information, visit [www.camdencounty.com/enjoy-camden-county/jersey-joe-walcott](http://www.camdencounty.com/enjoy-camden-county/jersey-joe-walcott).

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Last month, Pennsauken High School's student-athletes had a successful start to Phase I of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association's "Return to Play" model.

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### PYAA Football And Cheerleading Registration

The Pennsauken Youth Athletic Association is hosting registration for football and cheerleading at their turf football complex, located at 4250 Burwood Rd. Registration will be held at the following times this month: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

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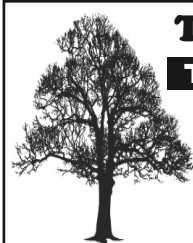
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# DECIDING ON PREPLANNING

Preplanning your funeral isn't just a good idea, it's something that benefits your entire family. It's a simple thing to do if you know who to talk to. Please send for this informative brochure to help answer any questions you may have. It's free and you'll learn why preplanning is for your family's sake.



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David L. Hernandez Jr., Owner, NJ Lic. No. 4626

Karen Lamb, Manager, NJ Lic. No. 5040

**Yes, I'd like more information on preplanning.**

(There is no cost or commitment.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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